



FORWARD TO FREEDOM

MICHIGAN IN
WORLD WAR II
AT THE MICHIGAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

INVESTIGATION LOG



World War II was fought in Europe and the Pacific, but it had a huge impact on the people of Michigan. Many Michiganders fought for our country, and the people and businesses at home in Michigan did their part to help win the war.

Complete this logbook as you investigate how Michigan aided the war effort.

Investigators age 7 or older: complete the entire book.

Investigators age 6 and under: complete only the activities on the pages shown below:

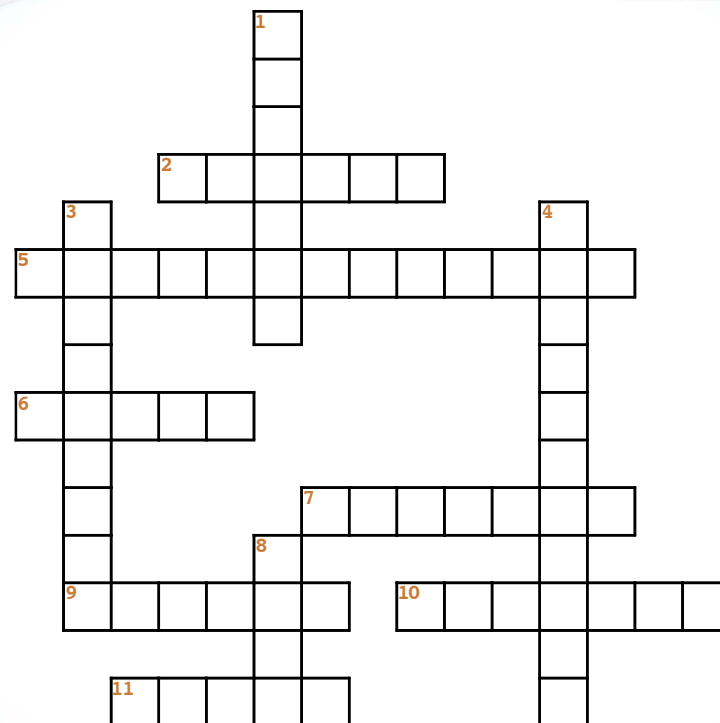


When you're done take your logbook to the Michigan Historical Museum admissions desk and answer one final question. You'll receive a reward and become an official Michigan History Investigator!

Have fun and good luck!

CROSSWORD TO VICTORY

Use the clues to uncover facts about World War II.



ACROSS

2. You need a _____ book to buy sugar
5. Plant a _____
6. _____ keep soldiers' feet warm
7. Michigan was the _____ of Democracy
9. Name of bomb sight
10. Buy a _____ to help win the war
11. Michigan held 5,000 Germans in POW _____

DOWN

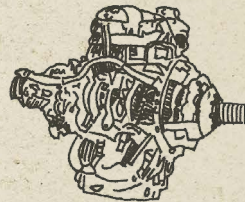
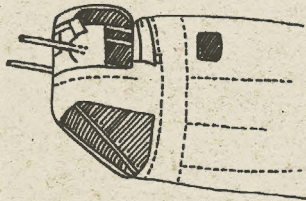
1. V. is for _____
3. Ford's bomber plant was at _____
4. The naval base attacked by the Japanese was at _____
8. General Purpose Vehicle nickname



THE ARSENAL OF DEMOCRACY

During World War II, Michigan made so many items for the war effort that it was called the "Arsenal of Democracy." Find the following objects in our gallery.

- If you are age 6 or under: write the first **letter** of the object on the line.
- If you are age 7 or older: write the **name** of the object on the line, and place a ★ beside artifacts made here but used in the war.



MICHIGAN HOMEFRONT

As you look at the gallery, fill in each blank with a word that fits the sentence. The words in **bold** are clues to help you find your answers. Good luck!

1. **Posters** encouraged kids to buy War Bond Stamps to support the war effort. The stamps cost either or . Your 10¢ stamp could buy bullets!
2. Look at the window shade above the **kitchen sink**. What color is it? . Why do you think people put that color up in their windows?
3. How many stars are on the banner hanging on the **kitchen door**? . What do you think this banner meant during a war?
4. To the **right of the kitchen** is a glass case with an important military medal called the **Purple Heart**. Who is pictured on the medal? (Hint: He was our first president.)
5. Find the life jacket in the **large glass display case**. This life jacket will float because it is filled with .
6. The K-Rations boxes in the **large glass case in the corner** were made by the cereal company.
7. The car company built the B-24 engine.

KEY DATES IN HISTORY

Walk through the gallery and discover when the following events happened. Write down the correct year for each.

YEAR	EVENT
<input type="text"/>	Charles Lindbergh flies solo across the Atlantic.
<input type="text"/>	Japan attacks Hawaii and the U.S. enters World War II.
<input type="text"/>	Ford Motor Company builds Willow Run Factory.
<input type="text"/>	Model year of the JEEP in the middle of the floor.
<input type="text"/>	Sugar and gasoline ration books issued to Americans.
<input type="text"/>	Willow Run Village constructed for Willow Run employees.
<input type="text"/>	War officially ends.



VICTORY GARDENS

During the war, much of the produce from our farmers was used to feed our soldiers, so Victory Gardens were created. Victory Gardens were small gardens where people grew their own fruits and vegetables to help out the farmers, and to make sure more food was available to feed the troops. The government and seed growers worked with people to be sure everyone had what they needed.

Match the pictures below with the name of the vegetable or fruit.



CARROTS

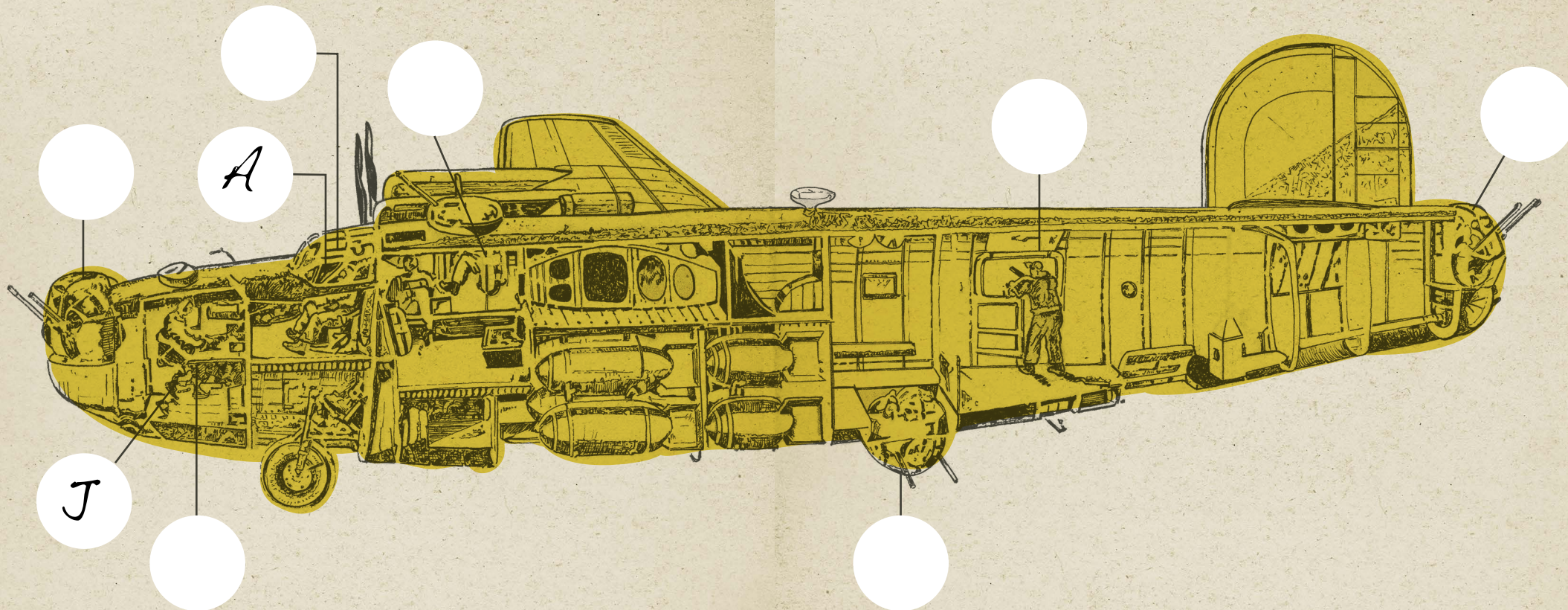
ONIONS

TOMATOES

LETTUCE

CORN

POTATOES



UP AND AWAY!

The B-24 Liberator Bomber was one of our greatest weapons during the war. It was used to fly deep into enemy territory and destroy enemy factories and bases. One of the largest American factories in World War II was Ford Motor Company's Willow Run Bomber Plant, located in Willow Run, Michigan. This factory made the B-24 Liberator, and the workers there were so good that they could make a new bomber in just over an hour!

There are many jobs on a B-24. Write the letter of each crew member job at its location on the plane.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| A. PILOT | F. NOSE GUNNER |
| B. BALL TURRET GUNNER | G. CO-PILOT |
| C&D. WAIST GUNNER
(1 ON EACH SIDE) | H. TAIL GUNNER |
| E. TOP TURRET GUNNER | I. NAVIGATOR |
| | J. BOMBARDIER |

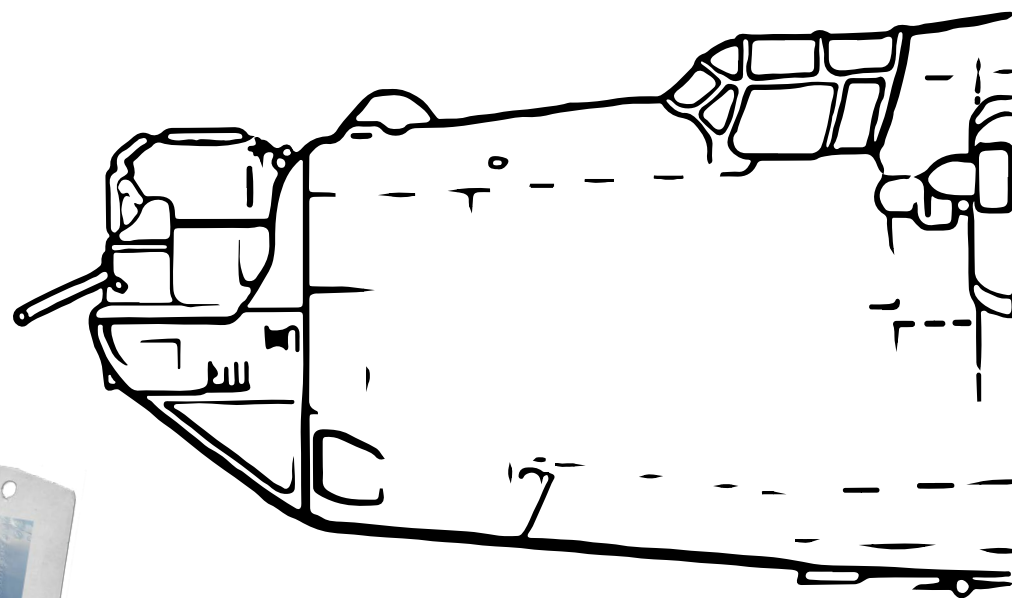
How many jobs were there on a B-24 Liberator?

B-24 NOSE ART

Nose art was a form of artistic expression on the nose section of aircraft in World War II. The artwork was used as an easy way to identify other planes (friendly or unfriendly) and to express the individuality of the bomber crew. Below are some examples of nose art on World War II planes.



If you flew a B-24 Liberator, what would you put on the nose of your plane? Design your own original nose art!



IN SHORT SUPPLY

During the war, food and other things were **rationed** – which meant that each family was given a limited supply to make sure that everybody had enough. Below is a ration book from World War II. Older investigators, look for items in the gallery that were rationed in World War II and list them below.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

400648 AF

WAR RATION BOOK No. 3 Void if altered

Identification of person to whom issued: PRINT IN FULL

Joazel D. Estrander

(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

Street number or rural route _____

City or post office _____ State _____

AGE	SEX	WEIGHT Lbs.	HEIGHT Ft. In.	OCCUPATION

SIGNATURE _____
(Person to whom book is issued. If such person is unable to sign because of age or incapacity, another may sign in his behalf.)

WARNING
This book is the property of the United States Government. It is unlawful to sell it to any other person, or to use it or permit anyone else to use it, except to obtain rationed goods in accordance with regulations of the Office of Price Administration. Any person who finds a lost War Ration Book must return it to the War Price and Rationing Board which issued it. Persons who violate rationing regulations are subject to \$10,000 fine or imprisonment, or both.

LOCAL BOARD ACTION

Issued by _____ (Local board number) _____ (Date)

Street address _____

City _____ State _____

(Signature of issuing officer)

OPA Form No. R-130

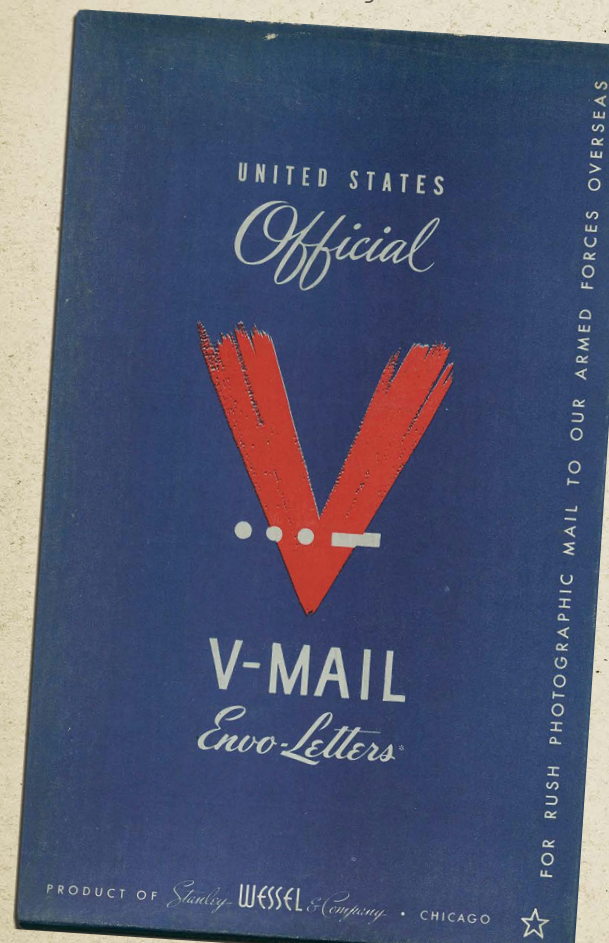
RATIONED ITEMS

V IS FOR VICTORY

During World War II, we used a special type of mail called V-Mail, or Victory Mail, that allowed people – especially children – to send letters directly to friends and relatives who were serving overseas.

A V-Mail letter was a preprinted sheet that could be written on and folded to make its own envelope. This picture shows the cover of a V-Mail stationery packet.

Children also helped their families assemble and send packages with family pictures, cookies, razors, socks and other things soldiers needed.



You can write your own V-Mail!

Use the V-Mail form located next to the V-Mail box in the gallery to tell us what you think is the most interesting part of the exhibit. What did you learn? Fold the letter and place it in the V-Mail box. Be sure to include your name, address and/or school. You might get a response!

**THROW YOUR
SCRAP INTO
THE FIGHT
!**

RECYCLING WORKS

As it is today, recycling was important during the war. Back then people called it "collecting salvage." Materials were collected to be made into things that our soldiers could use. This was an easy way for everyone to contribute. Children helped by running scrap drives in their community. Some of the things they collected for recycling included:

Paper

Aluminum

Steel

Food Scraps

Tin Cans

Rubber

Copper

Iron

Circle the items above that people still recycle today. Can you list some other items that we recycle?



RACE TO RECYCLE!

These children are trying to do their part to get to the salvage center and drop off all the scrap they've collected. Help them get there and help us win the war!



Answers to Crossword Puzzle on page 1

Across: 2. ration, 5. Victory Garden, 6. socks, 7. Arsenal, 9. Norden, 10. war bond, 11. camps, **Down:** 1. victory, 3. Willow Run, 4. Pearl Harbor, 8. JEEP

CONGRATULATIONS, MICHIGAN HISTORY INVESTIGATOR!

You have successfully completed your investigation log. Take it to the Michigan Historical Museum admissions desk to receive a reward. Be sure to come back and complete other Michigan History adventures!

NAME: _____

The Michigan Historical Center is part of the Department of Natural Resources. Its museum and archival programs help people discover, enjoy and find inspiration in their heritage. It includes the Michigan Historical Museum, 10 regional museums, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve, and the Archives of Michigan. Learn more at www.michigan.gov/michiganhistory.

